

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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CALL TO WORSHIP

*Psalm 100

*Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!
Serve the Lord with gladness!
Come into His presence with singing!*

All: Know that the Lord, He is God!
It is He who made us, and we are His;
we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.

*Leader: Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise!
Give thanks to Him; bless His name!*

All: For the Lord is good;
His steadfast love endures forever,
and His faithfulness to all generations.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

***Crown Him with Many Crowns / PSALM 100**

Crown Him with many crowns: the Lamb upon the throne
Hark How the heav'nly anthems drown all music but its own!
Awake, my soul and sing of Him Who died for thee
And hail Him as thy matchless King through all eternity

Shout to the LORD, you earth, and make a joyful noise,
With gladness serve the LORD your God, before Him lift your voice
Now know the LORD is God, He made us, we are His
His people and His sheep who safely in His pasture graze

Crown Him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave,
Who rose victorious to the strife for those He came to save!
His glories now we sing, who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring and lives that death may die!

Enter His gates with thanks, and fill His courts with praise
Give thanks to Him, and bless His name, to God your voices raise
Because the LORD is good, His steadfast love endures,
From age to age, for evermore, His faithfulness is sure.

TEXT: Matthew Bridges, stanza 1; Godfrey Thring, stanza 3 MUSIC: George J. Elvey

***Bless the Lord, O My Soul (Psalm 103)**

My God is slow to anger when I go astray,
Bless the Lord, O my soul
For all of my betrayals, He will not repay,
Bless the Lord, O my soul
Through mercy and compassion
His great love is proved,
He covers my transgressions like the snow,
As far as east from west are all my sins removed,
Bless the Lord, O my soul

He saved me from the pit when I had lost all hope,
Bless the Lord, O my soul
From endless springs of kindness all His blessings flow,
Bless the Lord, O my soul
Our days will fade like flowers and are quickly spent,
And like the wind our years will come and go,
Everlasting favor is His covenant,
Bless the Lord, O my soul

Merciful and gracious is my God to me,
Bless the Lord, O my soul
I will tell His goodness through eternity,
Bless the Lord, O my soul
And bless the Lord, you angels, all you heav'nly hosts,
And every living creature here below
Praise the Father, praise the Son, and Holy Ghost,
Bless the Lord, O my soul

And bless the Lord, you angels, all you heav'nly hosts
And every living creature here below
Praise the Father, praise the Son, and Holy Ghost...
Bless the Lord, O my soul,
Bless the Lord, O my soul

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SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 8:12-19

“So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him. For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God.”

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

All: Father in heaven,

We have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and deeds,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
We have thought too much of ourselves, and too little of Your name.
We have set our faces toward wealth, pleasure, and reputation,
and have not yielded our lives to Your Spirit.

Bring us to true repentance, Lord,
and forgive our sins in Jesus Christ our Savior,
who gives us His own righteousness.

PRIVATE CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***Romans 8: 1-2**

*Leader: There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.
For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus
from the law of sin and death.*

***Upon a Life I Did Not Live**

Upon a Life I have not lived,
Upon a Death I did not die,
Another's Life; Another's Death,
I stake my whole eternity.

Not on the tears which I have shed,
Not on the sorrows I have known,
Another's tears; Another's griefs,
On these I rest, on these alone.

(chorus)

O Jesus, Son of God,
I build on what Thy cross has done for me;
There both my death and life I read,
My guilt, and pardon there I see, (there I see.)

Lord, I believe; O deal with me,
As one who has Thy Word believed!
I take the gift, Lord, look on me,
As one who has Thy gift received

(repeat chorus)

(repeat verse 1)

(repeat chorus 2x)

Words: Horatius Bonar, Music: Kevin Twit

***Be Thou My Vision**

Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art--
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son,
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my Treasure Thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.

TEXT: Ancient Irish hymn, translated by Mary E. Byrne; versified by Eleanor H. Hull
MUSIC: Irish Folk melody; arranged by David Allen. Arr. ©1986 WORD MUSIC (a div. of WORD, INC.) ARR. ICS.UBP

PROFESSION OF FAITH

***Heidelberg Catechism 46 & 47**

Leader: What does it mean that "He ascended into heaven?"

**All: That Christ, while his disciples watched,
was taken up from the earth into heaven and remains there on our behalf
until He comes again to judge the living and the dead.**

Leader: But isn't Christ with us until the end of the world, as He promised us?

**All: Christ is true man and true God.
In His human nature Christ is not now on earth;
but in His divinity, majesty, grace, and Spirit, He is never absent from us.**

PRAYER OF SUPPLICATION

Although giving is a significant part of worship, we do not collect the offering during our service. Two boxes are placed by the doors to receive your offering. Tithes and offerings for the General Fund are placed in the box without the "steeple." Offerings for the Building Fund are to be placed in the box with the "steeple." Please make checks payable to Grace PCA, with "General" or "Building" included in the check memo.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name.
Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

SERMON: NEHEMIAH 2:1-8

George Boomer

**ALL: The grass withers and the flower falls,
but the word of the Lord remains forever.**

LORD'S SUPPER

This is My Father's World

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears
All nature sings and 'round me rings the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world; I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas – His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world—the birds their carols raise.
The morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise.
This is my Father's world; why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is king—let the heavens ring. God reigns—let earth be glad.

This is my Father's world. O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world; the battle is not done.
Jesus who died shall be satisfied, and earth and Heav'n be one.

Words: Maltbie D. Babcock, 1901; Music: Terra Beata, traditional English melody, arranged by Franklin L. Sheppard in his Alleluia, 1915

Christ the Sure and Steady Anchor

Christ the sure and steady anchor, in the fury of the storm;
When the winds of doubt blow through me, and my sails have all been torn.
In the suffering, in the sorrow, when my sinking hopes are few;
I will hold fast to the anchor, it will never be removed.

Christ the sure and steady anchor, while the tempest rages on;
When temptation claims the battle, and it seems the night has won.
Deeper still then goes the anchor, though I justly stand accused;
I will hold fast to the anchor, it shall never be removed.

Christ the sure and steady anchor, through the floods of unbelief;
Hopeless somehow, O my soul, now, lift your eyes to Calvary.
This my ballast of assurance, see his love forever proved.
I will hold fast to the anchor, it will never be removed.

Christ the sure and steady anchor, as we face the wave of death;
When these trials give, way to glory, as we draw our final breath.
We will cross that great horizon, clouds behind and life secure;
And the calm will be the better, for the storms that we endure.

Christ the shore of our salvation, ever faithful, ever true!
We will hold fast to the anchor, it shall never be removed.

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Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery

Come behold the wondrous mystery, in the dawning of the King
He the theme of heavens praises, robed in frail humanity
In our longing, in our darkness, now the light of life has come
Look to Christ, who condescended, took on flesh to ransom us

Come behold the wondrous mystery, He the perfect Son of Man
In His living, in His suffering, never trace nor stain of sin
See the true and better Adam, come to save the hell-bound man
Christ the great and sure fulfillment, of the law; in Him we stand

Come behold the wondrous mystery, Christ the Lord upon the tree
In the stead of ruined sinners, hangs the Lamb in victory
See the price of our redemption see the Father's plan unfold
Bringing many sons to glory, grace unmeasured, love untold

Come behold the wondrous mystery, slain by death the God of life
But no grave could e'er restrain Him, praise the Lord; He is alive!
What a foretaste of deliverance, how unwavering our hope
Christ in power resurrected, as we will be when he comes

What a foretaste of deliverance, how unwavering our hope
Christ in power resurrected, as we will be when he comes

Matt Papa, Matt Boswell, Michael Bleeker ©2013 The Summit Church

BENEDICTION

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen

AFTER SERVICE PRAYER

Scott Rask & Phil Oberzan

It is our sincere desire to pray effectively for the particular needs of those worshipping with us this morning. If you have a prayer concern that you want shared with the congregation during the prayers of the people, please email prayer@gpca.church or contact one of the pastors prior to the service with your request. If you desire prayer on a personal matter, we invite you to meet with the elders in the front pews after the Benediction.

***CONGREGATION WILL STAND**

Use this QR code to let us know you're here today.



Elders are available to pray and assist you at elders@gpca.church.